

IRA Rebates and PAYS[®] Copayments

How integrating program delivery can achieve more equitable outcomes

Presented to Missouri Public Service Commission Virtual Workshop May 9, 2023

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CLEANENERGYW ORKS

Clean Energy Works accelerates inclusive investments that open the clean energy economy to all.

Our world is not on a path to reach a goal of 100% clean energy for everyone. There is a viable model – **inclusive utility investments** – and it's not yet spreading fast enough to make a difference.

Clean Energy Works' Levers For Change



Outreach & Engagement

Create and build embedded relationships in sector-specific networks to strengthen and support Champions



Policy & Regulatory Support

Provide technical support to regulators, advocates, policy makers, and other stakeholders who are developing enabling federal and state policies and regulations



Research

Rigorously pursue answers to questions that can accelerate policy approval and commercial adoption of inclusive utility investments



Advising & Coaching

Provide capacity building support to utilities, partners, and allies that are engaging stakeholders in strategic geographies

We primarily work with utility executives, regulators, legislators, community champions, and public interest advocates.

Those with whom we work describe us as "a team of connectors, catalysts, and innovators who are knowledgeable, optimistic, and solution-focused."





IRA + PAYS = MO Clean Energy Revolution

- 1. MO is uniquely positioned to blaze the trail to a clean energy future by braiding IRA rebates with Pay As You Save[®] (PAYS[®]) and Weatherization Assistance Programs
- 2. Don't believe the hype. On their own IRA rebates may be a recipe for public disappointment or anger.
- 3. PAYS has strong potential to accelerate and cut costs and risks of residential clean energy investment for all households
- 4. However, Missouri IOU's PAYS programs lack market leverage needed to deliver those benefits
- 5. The short burst of IRA rebate dollars could be sufficient to provide that leverage and transform PAYS into a major engine of MO clean energy future and economic renaissance

MO is uniquely positioned to blaze the trail to a clean energy future by braiding IRA rebates with Pay As You Save (and Weatherization Assistance) programs

All MO Investor Owned Utilities have Active or Approved PAYS[®] Programs

At present only Investor Owned Utilities (IOUs) in Missouri offer PAYS programs

- Ameren PAYS[®] (Active, Permanent, Co-delivered, \$10M)
- Evergy PAYS[®] (Active, Pilot, Co-delivered, \$7M)
- Spire PAYS[®] (Active, Permanent, Co-delivered, \$17M)
- Liberty PAYS[®] (Approved, Pilot, not yet contracted, \$0.5M)

~80% (2 million) of Missouri households receive electric or gas service from an investor owned utility

 ${\sim}20\%$ of households (500K) do not currently have access to a utility offering a PAYS program

*EEtility is currently the Program Operator for all contracted programs which facilitates co-delivery



PAYS has strong potential to accelerate and cut costs and risks of residential clean energy investment for all households

PAYS^{®*} enables utilities to make site-specific investments in a range of efficiency and clean energy technologies on the customer side of the meter



*Also known as inclusive utility investment

Utility Perspective: With inclusive utility investment / PAYS[®], investment dollars flow from the utility to the contractor and are recovered as a fixed charge on the utility bill



Customer Perspective: A stress-free journey, insulated from high pressure contractor sales



Source: CEW modification of Slipstream graphic based on the original from LibertyHomes

PAYS pioneered by electric cooperatives has demonstrated success many states



Ferguson, Jill Grey, S. Bickel, H. Lachman, P.A. Cillo, H. Hummel. Pay As You Save System of Inclusive Utility Investment for Building Efficiency Upgrades: Reported and Evaluated Field Experience in the United States. 2022 ECEEE Summer Study Proceedings, 2022.

• PAYS pioneered by electric cooperatives has demonstrated success many states

	MACED (KY) ^{1,2,}	Ouachita Electric Cooperative Corporation (AR) ^{1,3}	Roanoke Electric Cooperative (NC) ^{1,3}
Start Date	2011	2016	2017
Upgrade Package	Wx, HVAC	Wx, HVAC	DI, Wx, HVAC, DR
Cust. Reached	0.2%	6.2%	6%
Offer Acceptance Rate	78%	90% No copay 62% w/copay	90% No сорау 66% w/сорау
Average Upgrade Package Size (\$)	\$7,500	\$6,300	\$7,650
Average Monthly Energy Savings (\$)	\$43.25	\$55.33	\$59.08
Average Monthly Tariff (\$)	\$34.60	\$44.26	\$47.26
Charge-offs	<0.4%	Zero	<0.2%

¹Energy Efficiency Institute, 2019 PAYS[®] Status Update

- ² MACED How\$mart KY Program Data
- ³ EEtility SmartSheet database,
- ⁴ Greg Leventis, Presentation: SEE Action Loan Performance—Findings For ACEEE Finance Forum May 25, 2021. Lawrence

Berkeley National Laboratory

Resources to Learn More about PAYS[®]

2022: EPA launches a new resource hub for inclusive utility investment in conjunction with the launch of ENERGY STAR's building decarbonization upgrade program



www.energystar.gov/products/inclusive_utility_investment

Home » Energy Efficient Products » Inclusive Utility Investment

Inclusive Utility Investment

Expanding access to deep energy efficiency and electrification upgrades

Increasing access to deep energy efficiency and electrification retrofits across all households is critical to addressing energy inequity in the United States and solving the global climate crisis. Inclusive Utility Investment is one promising approach to expanding access to deep energy efficiency and electrification upgrades for all customers, including those that are often underserved by utility energy efficiency programs.

Inclusive Utility Investment is a proven (yet underutilized) model among Rural Electric Cooperatives, and one that is gaining interest and traction among Investor-Owned Utilities because it combines unique attributes, some of which follow:

- · It enables utilities to make site-specific investments in home energy upgrades with site-specific cost recovery,
- It can pay for 100% of energy upgrades estimated to produce immediate net savings,
- It is not a loan program, and all customers are eligible regardless of income, credit standing or status as a homeowner or renter,
- Cost recovery is achieved through a tariffed charge on the utility bill tied to the utility meter rather than an individual, and
- Successor customers at an upgraded site are notified that the cost recovery charge applies automatically to the bill until the utility's costs are recovered.



ENERGY STAR HOME UPGRADE





Additional Resources

Missouri IOU PAYS[®] Websites and Related Resources

- Evergy PAYS[®] program <u>FAQ</u>
- <u>Ameren PAYS[®] program</u>
- Spire PAYS[®] program

Recent Research Papers

- Reported and Evaluated Field Experience from Pay As You Save® Building Efficiency Upgrades (Jill Ferguson, Stephen Bickel, Harlan Lachman, Paul A. Cillo, and Holmes Hummel)
- Inclusive Financial Solutions Are Imperative to Meet 100% Targets (Holmes Hummel, Jill Ferguson, and Stephen Bickel)
- Inclusive Utility Investment in Action: Utility Value of a Pay As You Save® Energy Efficiency Program (Stephen Bickel, Jill Ferguson, and Daniel Kauffman)
- <u>Customer outcomes in Pay-As-You-Save programs</u> (Jeff Deason, Sean Murphy, and Greg Leventis, LBNL)

Other PAYS[®] Resources

- <u>Applying the PAYS[®] System to On-Site Solar to Expand Access for All</u> (Clean Energy Works webpage). This includes links to 3 report(s) prepared for DOE.
- Tools for utilities to use: Modeling Inclusive Utility Investments in On-Site Solar
- EPA ENERGY STAR Inclusive Utility Investment webpage. Posted April 2022, last revised June 2022.
- <u>"Bridging the Gap: Ensuring Access to Energy Efficiency For All.</u>" Keynote Presentation, ACEEE Finance Forum by Dr. Tony Reams, Deputy Director for Energy Justice at U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)m May 2022 (~15 minutes)
- <u>States are in the Driver's Seat: How the IRA can Pave the Way to Greater Energy Equity.</u> CPUC Commissioner Darcie L. Hauck presentation at the NARUC Annual Meeting November 15, 2022.

Don't believe the hype. On their own IRA rebates may be a recipe for public disappointment or anger. Given some of the coverage, you might think *everyone* is going to get a generous IRA rebate to upgrade their home



High expectations and limited access are not a good combination

Total Rebates	\$8.8B
Missouri Share	\$150M
For Households After Admin Fee (20%)	\$120M
Average \$/Household	\$48

Not a lot of people are going to get a rebate Average Rebate Households HH Frequency

		Rebate	ribusenoius	HH	Trequency
Minimum		\$500	242K	9.60%	Less than 1 in 10
Probable		\$2,000	2,000 60K 2.38%		Less than 1 in 40
Gold Rush			19.4K	0.77%	Less than 1 in 130
	HEAR	\$14,000	4.3K		
	HER	\$4,000	15.2K		

Missouri IOU's PAYS[®] programs lack market leverage needed to deliver the full potential of benefits

Very low conversion rates are the primary cause of low total upgrade volumes





Very low conversion rates are the primary cause of low total upgrade volumes



Participation Rates

- 2,095 Interested / Enrolled Customers
- 1,281 Benefited from Direct Installs
- 103 PAYS Tariffs / Customer Retrofits
 - 14 Retrofits in LMI zip codes
 - 1 Renter retrofit complete

Barriers to Participation

Early-Stage Barriers:

- Customer Responsiveness (40%) drop off before Tier 1
- Asbestos, Mold, Envelope/Structural Issues (25%) identified during Tier 1 so cannot proceed

Post Easy Plan Delivery Barriers:

- Co-Pays
 - Easy Plans offered were declined due to Co-Pays (75%)
 - Customers that did proceed with a Co-Pay averaged around \$3,000, many financed by Contractors
 - Avg Co-Pay of HVAC installs was \$6,156
 - Cost of HVAC equipment upgrades is difficult to meet the required 20% PAYS rule in bill savings

*Data is through 09.30.22

Public

>> evera

• Why are HVAC copays so high? Initial data suggests: excessive retail markup

	Size	Wholesale Equipment Price (single item)	Installed HVAC Costs for EEtility Managed PAYS Programs		Retail Mark-up Over Equipment Cost			Relative Size of MO Mark-Up Compared to AR/VA/NC	
			AR/VA/NC	мо	AR/VA/NC		мо		
					\$	%	\$	%	
	2.5 Ton	\$ 5,000	\$ 6,800	\$ 8,126	\$ 1,800	36%	\$ 3,126	63%	74%
Furnace + AC 16 SEER 95 AFUE	3 Ton	\$ 5 <i>,</i> 400	\$ 6,800	\$ 8,466	\$ 1,400	26%	\$ 3,066	57%	119%
	3.5 Ton	\$ 6,000	\$ 7,200	\$ 9,223	\$ 1,200	20%	\$ 3,223	54%	169%
	2.5 Ton	\$ 3,900	\$ 5,900	\$ 7,755	\$ 2,000	51%	\$ 3,855	99%	93%
HP 16 SEER 8.8 HSPF	3 Ton	\$ 4 <i>,</i> 400	\$ 6,200	\$ 8,471	\$ 1,800	41%	\$ 4,071	93%	126%
	3.5 Ton	\$ 5,000	\$ 6,800	\$ 9,373	\$ 1,800	36%	\$ 4,373	87%	143%

The short burst of IRA rebate dollars could be sufficient to provide leverage to transform PAYS into a major engine of MO clean energy future and economic renaissance

PAYS programs cut costs two ways: utility investment and volume pricing



Adding IRA rebate braiding to planned improvements will supercharge program volumes

Measures to Reduce Copays by Reducing Installed Cost of 3 Ton HVAC Upgrade Using

		2023		2024	
		Underway	Under Discussion	IRA Braiding	
	Current Copay	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	
lew HVAC Installer		-\$1,666			
k Purchasing (Assume 25% discount) AC Installer (Assume 35% mark-up)			-\$2,999	-\$2,999	
ER (modeled >35% EE savings)				-\$4,000	
	New Copay	\$4,333	\$3,002	\$2	

What happens if just 25% of MO Home Energy Rebates of \$4000 each are applied to PAYS upgrade offers?





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Thank You

Backup slides



Debt-based: Financing home upgrades with loans has low market penetration and categorically excludes many customers

Observation on Loan Volume Data:

Maximum annual market penetration in a sample of 4 state-aided clean energy loan programs since inception is 0.1% of households in each state



Figure 1. Loan volumes by program and vintage

Observation on Borrower Data:

90% of borrowers in the 4 programs studied had credit scores that were prime, super prime, and beyond super-prime



State and Local Energy Efficiency Action Network (SEE Action). (2021). Long-Term Performance of Energy Efficiency Loan Portfolios. Prepared by: Jeff Deason, Greg Leventis, and Sean Murphy of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. https://eta-publications.lbl.gov/sites/default/files/see action loan performance full study final.pdf

Slide design Clean Energy Works enhanced by Jill Ferguson: CPUC Shultz Fellow | Doctoral Student, NSF GREP Fellow, and Knight-Hennessy Scholar at Stanford University | Co-Founder of LibertyHome

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To successfully upgrade all homes capital stacking will be essential





Evergy PAYS® Program Pilot Results (Sept 27, 2021 - Sept 30, 2022)

Participants love the program: Overall participant satisfaction is very high (CSAT 8.1); those who get improvements are ecstatic (CSAT 9.5)

Customer interest was overwhelming: Evergy had to cease marketing after two of weeks, and is only just resuming

High loss rate for initial enrollees will be easily avoided in future by adding self-scheduling to enrollment website; moreover, the program still provided benefits to a large number of customers: 1,281 customers received a site visit and direct install of simple energy-saving measures

17% of attrition is due **structural and health and safety issues** at the site (typical for weatherization programs)

PAYS upgrade offers see 90% acceptance rates when offers have no upfront cost and 50% when copayment is low (<\$2,000). Inflated HVAC and Wx prices created high copays in Missouri, which dramatically depressed offer acceptance rates. Better pricing has been secured and additional steps are available to reduce copays to reasonable levels (including IRA rebates).

Program	Share of projects with a copay	Average copay (\$)	Median copay (\$)	Household income
Appalachian	52.6%	\$2027	\$2008	\$62,145
Kentucky	47.5%	\$2116	\$1250	\$51,633
Midwest	73.6%	\$2687	\$1882	\$73,285
Ouachita	31.3%	\$1765	\$1432	\$51,283
Roanoke	14.6%	\$1890	\$1725	\$54,047

Source: LBL

Traditional Utility Industry

Commission approves utility to build a power plant and get return <u>of</u> that capital + a 7% return <u>on</u> that capital investment from ratepayers.



Inclusive Utility Investment

Commission approves utility to invest in building energy upgrades and get return <u>of</u> that capital from the savings generated by the participants + a 7% return <u>on</u> that capital investment from both ratepayers and participants.


• The general impression



Area Median Income, Select Missouri Counties



ELECTRICITY MARKETS & POLICY

Consumer outcomes in residential Pay-as-You-Save programs

Jeff Deason, Sean Murphy, and Greg Leventis



This work was funded by the U.S. Department of Energy Building Technologies Office, under Contract No. DE-AC02-05CH11231.

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Participant demographics

- No participant demographic data available
 - Used zip code-level American Community Survey data
- Participants are typically in areas with
 - Household incomes and education below national average
 - Unemployment rates above national average

Program	White- identifying population	Black- identifying population	Has bachelor's degree or higher	Unemployment rate	Household income
Appalachian	94.8%	3.7%	15.9%	6.2%	\$62,145
Kentucky	96.9%	3.1%	14.9%	7.8%	\$51,633
Midwest	95.1%	2.7%	35.0%	2.9%	\$73,285
Ouachita	60.1%	39.8%	14.9%	8.1%	\$51,283
Roanoke	46.1%	52.0%	15.3%	7.9%	\$54,047
National	75.3%	14.0%	32.1%	5.3%	\$88,607



Project measures

- Projects are typically a mix of HVAC and weatherization
- Prevalence of LED lighting measures tracks with program model (PAYS® vs How\$mart)

	Share of projects that include measure					
Program	HVAC	Insulation	Air &/or duct sealing	LED lighting		
Appalachian	80.0%	48.0%	73.3%	86.7%		
Kentucky	92.0%	62.9%	84.7%	3.4%		
Midwest	96.8%	43.1%	15.1%	0.0%		
Ouachita	92.7%	0.0%	93.9%	95.%		
Roanoke	90.1%	32.1%	85.8%	90.1%		



Project costs and financing

- Capital costs are low and project costs are similar across programs
- Variation in *ex ante* dollar savings may reflect differences in climate, energy prices, building stock, and participant targeting

	Appalachian	Kentucky	Midwest	Ouachita	Roanoke
Total customer cost (tariffed amount plus copay)	\$7704	\$7323	\$9569	\$8247	\$6975
Ex ante expected monthly savings (\$)	\$62.44	\$47.23	\$50.24	\$74.11	\$78.19
Monthly payment (\$)	\$48.39	\$42.78	\$41.49	\$56.44	\$56.20
Cost of capital	2.0%	3.0%	3.2%	3.6%	3.0%



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Project costs and financing - expanded

	Appalachian	Kentucky	Midwest	Ouachita	Roanoke
Total customer cost (tariffed amount plus copay)	\$7704	\$7323	\$9569	\$8247	\$6975
Payment as share of <i>ex</i> <i>ante</i> expected savings	77.50%	76.20%	84.70%	76.80%	77.60%
Ex ante expected monthly savings (\$)	\$62.44	\$47.23	\$50.24	\$74.11	\$78.19
Monthly payment (\$)	\$48.39	\$42.78	\$41.49	\$56.44	\$56.20
Cost of capital	2.0%	3.0%	3.2%	3.6%	3.0%
Tariff term (months)	135.5	145.7	179.9	135.2	113.1



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Project copays

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Project copays - expanded

		Appalachian	Kentucky	Midwest	Ouachita	Roanoke
Projects without copay	Total tariffed amount (including cost of capital)	\$6269	\$6418	\$6391	\$7525	\$6469
	Total customer cost (tariffed amount plus copay)	\$6269	\$6418	\$6391	\$7525	\$6469
Projects with copay	Total tariffed amount (including cost of capital)	\$6932	\$6205	\$8145	\$8067	\$8036
	Total customer cost (tariffed amount plus copay)	\$8960	\$8322	\$10,832	\$9832	\$9925



Many homes are barriered from receiving energy upgrades due to health and safety dangers and structural damage; these homes are also at risk of loss to the affordable housing stock

Location	Program type	Deferred for health and safety and/or structural problems
Connecticut ¹	Income Eligible, Wx	23%
Connecticut ¹	Market rate, HES	14%
Vermont ²	Income Eligible, Wx	10%
Virginia ²	Income Eligible, Wx	18%
Washington ²	Income Eligible, Wx	>30%
Roanoke Electric Coop, NC ³	Inclusive, PAYS (persistent poverty counties)	~55%
Georgia Power IQTBEE Pilot ³	Income Eligible, UI	~80%
LaGrange, GA, SOUL ¹	Income Eligible, UI	~80%

(Wx=Weatherization, HES = Home Energy Solutions, PAYS= Pay As You Save®, UI = Utility Investment)

¹ Energy Futures Group. Presentation at the CT Weatherization Barriers Workshop, November 18, 2020

²E4TheFuture, <u>Weatherization Barriers Toolkit</u>: How to Address Health and Safety Barriers with an Income-Eligible Focus. Presentation

slide deck. June 6, 2022.

³ Tammy Agard, CEO, EEtility, personal communication, June 1, 2022.

Deferral causes

- Asbestos/vermiculite
- Mold
- Pests
- Roof damage
- Wall damage
- Cracked foundations

Deferral costs

- VA average est. remediation cost: \$5,000-\$8,000
- CT average remediation cost: \$20,000

Program Operator Perspective: Manage the process from soup to nuts

- Volume pricing for equipment and installation that significantly lower the cost of projects
- **Program operator expert staff conducts the energy audit** (not the contractors making the improvements)
- Uses field tested, 3rd party validated energy estimation software, calibrated with 12 months of historical billing data from each site, to develop the cost-effective scope of work (again, not the contractors)
- Post upgrade, **100% real-time remote quality assurance** via geocoded time-stamped photographs before payment is released to contractors that install the upgrades
- Monitoring of energy usage post upgrade to identify anomalies where the site's energy performance is out of line with expectations

Critical Perspective

- Lack of evidence that 80% rule ensures participants are saving more than they pay post upgrade
 - Paying more than you save is not always an indication that the upgrade failed. People are free to add load.
 - Investigations would have to tease out what is equipment failure vs behavior
- Disconnection authority remains a risk for most vulnerable customers
 - Until utilities change the way they secure cost recovery, this won't change
- Successor customers may have a lower usage profile, causing tariffed charge to exceed savings
 - Customers are notified of tariffed charge and upgrades prior to purchase or lease
 - Ignores health, safety, and comfort benefits as well as protection from increasingly common high bills during extreme weather events
- PAYS sounds too much like PACE, which was riddled with poor consumer protections, leading to a negative association
 - So call it "Pay As You Save[®]" or inclusive utility investment

SELC response to NCLC Memo. https://southernenvironment.sharefile.com/d-s347c47c8e80c4ebc91d7485d9629973c

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IOUs serve approximately 2 million Missouri households (80%)
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Missouri's 47 rural electric cooperatives serve ~860,000 customers.

Missouri's more than 100 municipal utilities serve ~640,000 households.

A large number of Missouri households are served by a combination of public and private utilities and approximately 500K do not receive either electric or gas service from an investor owned utility



igure 1: Current Missouri electric service areas courtesy of the Missouri Public Service Commission. opy available at: https://psc.ma.gov/CMSInternetData/Electric/Missouri%20Electric%20Service%20Area%20Map%2011-8-9.adf



Missouri Rural Electric Cooperative Service Territories





Missouri is getting a significant chunk of IRA Rebate Funds

Home Energy Performance-Based, Whole-House Rebate Allocations and High Efficiency Electric Home Rebate Allocations



	Home Electric Appliance Rebates	Home Efficiency Rebates	Total
Missouri Allocation	\$75,807,060	\$75,366,640	\$151,173,700
Rebate Funds After Admin (80%)	\$60,645,648	\$60,293,312	\$120,938,960